

Message Text

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47 41
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-15 ORM-03 SR-02 CIAE-00

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2143

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0650

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MZ

SUBJ: MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS

1. DURING LENGTHY BRIEFING ON OVERALL SECURITY SITUATION PROVIDED FOR CAPE TOWN CONSUL GENERAL O'NEILL BY COL. RAMIRES RAMOS OF THE MOZAMBIQUE INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (SCCIM) ON SEPTEMBER 20, THE FOLLOWING NOVEL ITEMS EMERGED:

2. ACCORDING TO COL RAMOS, FRELIMO HAS SENT 80 PEOPLE TO CHINA AND/OR SOVIET UNION TO RECEIVE TRAINING IN USE OF SURFACE-AIR MISSILES. SUCH MISSILES, WHICH WERE FIRST USED BY PORTUGUESE GUINEA GUERRILLAS LAST SPRING, CAN THUS BE EXPECTED TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE IN MOZAMBIQUE TOWARDS END OF 1974. THERE HAS GENERALLY BEEN TIMELAG OF YEAR TO 18 MONTHS BETWEEN TIME NEW WEAPON APPEARS IN GUINEA AND TIME IT APPEARS
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IN MOZAMBIQUE.

3. PORTUGUESE FORCES HAVE HAD SIGNIFICANT SUCCESSES RECENTLY IN OHECZTEAS OF NORTHERN BEIRA AND VILA PERY DISTRICTS IN-FILTRATED OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS BY SMALL GROUPS OF FRELIMO GUERRILLAS. THIS SUCCESS HAS BEEN DUE PRIMARILY TO GREATLY IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE OBTAINED FROM THE LOCAL POPULATIONS, AND HAS RESULTED IN CONSIDERABLE DEMORALIZATION AMONG FRELIMO GROUPS. RAMOS DID NOT PROVIDE DETAILS, AND NO NEWS OF SPECIFIC MILITARY ACTIONS OF ANY KIND HAS BEEN MADE PUBLIC IN SOME WEEKS.

4. THERE ARE PRESENTLY SOME 10 TO 15 THOUSAND MACONDE REFUGEES IN KENYA, AND THE NUMBER IS INCREASING. MOVEMENT OF MACONDES OUT OF TANZANIA INTO KENYA BEGAN DURING FRELIMO'S INTERNAL SCHISMS WHICH FOLLOWED DEATH OF MONDLANE, WHEN MACONDE FOLLOWERS OF LAZARO KAVANDAME HAD TO FLEE FOR THEIR LIVES. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, EXODUS HAS BEGUN AGAIN BECAUSE OF FORCED FRELIMO RECRUITING IN UN SPONSORED REFUGEE CAMPS IN TANZANIA. MOZAMBICAN REFUGEES IN THESE CAMPS WHO REFUSE TO JOIN FRELIMO ARE SUMMARILY SHOT, COL. RAMOS SAID.

5. FINALLY, COL RAMOS NOTED THAT WHILE FRELIMO UNITS IN CABO DELGADO AND NIASA DISTRICTS OFTEN WEAR MILITARY CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORMS, THOSE OPERATING IN TETE, BEIRA, AND VILA PERY DISTRICTS ALMOST INVARIABLY WEAR CIVILIAN CLOTHES, SO THAT THEY CAN HIDE THEIR WEAPONS AND TRY TO LOSE THEMSELVES AMONG THE LOCAL POPULATION.

6. COMMENT: REST OF BRIEFING WENT OVER FAMILIAR GROUND CONCERNING COMMUNIST WORLD STRATEGY AND THE HISTORY AND PROGRESS OF INSURGENCY IN MOZAMBIQUE.
MACDOUGALL

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